

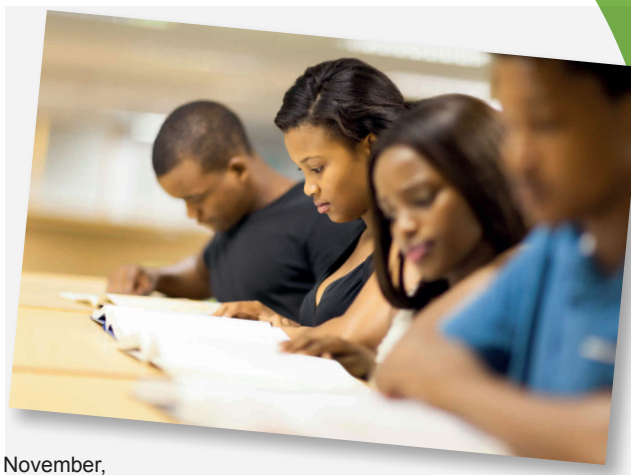
NEWS

EAST AFRICA CREDIT TRANSFER

A joint declaration for the implementation of a harmonized higher education system was released by Ministers of Education of EAC (Eastern Africa Community) partner countries.

According to the harmonized system, which will be launched during the next EAC heads of state summit expected to be held this November, students will be able to transfer credits to higher education institutions in Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

The credit transfer system represents the first step for a more comprehensive harmonization: the main objective is the creation of a regional framework, a basis on which each national framework will be shaped on.



FORUM FOR AFRICAN WOMEN VICE CHANCELLORS (FAWOVC) – EMPOWERING AFRICAN WOMEN LEADERS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Durante a reunião sobre liderança das mulheres no ensino superior com vista ao fortalecimento económico, que teve lugar no dia 24 de agosto de 2016, teve lugar o primeiro Fórum para as Mulheres vice-Presidentes Africanas. Esta reunião fez parte do evento paralelo que antecedeu a 6ª Conferência Internacional de Tóquio sobre Desenvolvimento Africano (TICAD VI) que teve lugar entre os dias 27 e 28 de agosto de 2016 em Nairobi, Quênia.

During the woman leadership meeting on Higher Education for economic empowerment, which was held on 24th August 2016, the first Forum for African Women Vice Chancellors was launched. This meeting was part of the side event for the 6th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI) which took place between the 27th and 28th of August 2016 in Nairobi, Kenya.

The meeting was attended by 20 Vice Chancellors from African Universities, representatives from German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), UN Women, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural organisation (UNESCO), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) and RUFORUM. During the event, Professor Mabel Imbuga, Vice Chancellor of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology was elected the interim chairperson of FAWoVC. The establishment of this forum intended to create new connections and networking among female Vice Chancellors and to provide lesson learning and mentorship activities as a support while tackling issues affecting the low number of woman representatives in STEM and leadership.



EDITORIAL

The ANGLE project was and is a project targeted at success. The ideology behind it, this of the mobility to European Union countries of students coming from other parts of the world, has revolutionized the way of facing higher education. The subjacent asset to this unparalleled experience does not allow us to consider any further the educational parameters as something characteristic of a determined society and of a specific country. The exchange of students and staff allowed the expansion of the cosmopolitan and global spirit that was initiated almost thirty years ago to very different peoples and cultures.

The university world was changed forever. Students, teachers and also technical staff members got used to go out of their comfort zone and their study and learning habits, and to face challenges that until recently were perceived to be unthinkable.

These challenges put them in the verge of other knowledge, other competences and performances.

If we believe that all this is positive, if we believe in a global era with no return, then we can affirm, without any doubt, that this and other similar projects foster "interculturalism" and the understanding of the other, thus contributing to the real borderless society, where the difference is an advantage, where the opposition is a source of wisdom.

Fátima Marinho ANGLE Project Coordinator

ANGLE

THE NEW AFRICAN PASSPORT

The African Union, during the Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government which took place in Kigali (Rwanda) on 17th July 2016, launched the new African Passport. The strong call for unity and love for the continent was indeed followed by this announcement: the African Passport will create a visa-free zone among the 54 member states of AU.

At the first stage of its implementation, the Passport will only be available for African Union dignitaries and officials; just at a later time, it will be made accessible to citizens of member countries as well. The process is expected to be complete by 2018.

According to Dr Beatrice Khamati Njenga, the head of the education division in the African Union's department of human resources, science and technology, an African Passport which facilitates the cross-border travel would benefit the intra-African collaboration and the intra-Africa mobility. As consequence of this, Dr. Beatrice states that the harmonization of higher education in Africa could be more valid and effective.



TESTIMONIAL

The participation in an exchange program is always a moment of some questionings, especially for those who have never participated in any program. This is how I left for this experience: with more questions than answers. How will the faculty be? How will the colleagues be? How will the country be? Will I fit in well? Will I like it? Will it be though? The long hours of travel and the distance, physic and chronological, also contribute to emphasise the doubts and questions. The answers to all these questions, and even more, came naturally after the first day spent in Suva, Fiji. People are nice and extremely receptive and the city, small, resembles Lisbon in some aspects. It is easy to circulate from one point to another, we get to know our way around quickly and the sun shines a little every day. However, it could not be more different!

The old buses, really old, paint the air with their characteristic black smoke and fill the environment with the sound, always loud, of old radios, daily companions of the drivers that circulate constantly, in loop, through the small city. The white of the flowers of the countless frangipani (Plumerias) brush the city's silhouette, endowing the characteristic "tropical look" that we normally associate to all the lost paradises in the South Pacific.

The smell of fresh fish can be felt since the early hours in the city centre, a reflex of the small market in the open sun that supplies on a daily basis the locals and countless tourists who come out from the countless cruise ships that berth shortly in the Suva harbour.

In my first day in Suva, after a well-slept night to recover from the 26 hours of travel, I left to discover the city. As it was a weekend, there was no one at the university to receive me which, in certain measure, was quite pleasant, as I was allowed to discover by myself the new space where I was inserted in. The discovery could not have gone any better! In fact, Suva is a really enjoyable city, with all the troubles associated to a city of a developing country surrounded by sea.

The first day of work was of habituation and knowledge of the new university. Different in size, in colour, in people and in the organization itself. After the presentations and the initial meetings with the several areas of the DMCA (Development, Marketing & Communications and Alumni Office) the work which I proposed to develop started. Essentially based in an exchange of experiences and knowledge concerning the several existent valences not only in my department but also in the department in which I was. From marketing to merchandising, passing through the social networks, public relations and alumni, I tried to collect as much information as it could be useful for me in my return back home.

In the end of the first week of work, I was already totally integrated, which was really easy taking into account the amicability with which I was received!

It also contributed to my integration the fact that the team building weekend at USP took place right after my first week of work. This was a very interesting moment during my mobility month, once it allowed me to acquire a deep knowledge of all the work developed by DMCA.

More than a professional experience, I consider that this type of programme is a life experience! It allows the knowledge of new ways of working, new experiences and the construction of new personal relations. It was without any doubt a unique experience, motivating, which allows to look with new eyes the area of university marketing and get to know new ways of bonding with former students, an area in which USP has a remarkable work developed.



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PARTNER COUNTRY'S PROFILE



FEATURED REGION : CARIBBEAN

COUNTRY NAME: HAITI

Location: Greater Antilles,
Archipelago of Caribbean

Official Languages: French, Haitian Creole

Currency: Gourde do Haiti (HTG)

Food: Although very similar to other Latin-Caribbean countries, Haitian cuisine has some elements that distinguish it and make it unique. Due to several foreign influences, Haitian cuisine is a mix of different culinary traditions: French, Spanish and indigenous with some elements typical of many African countries. Dishes are very spicy and seasoned. Rice and beans are the main products of the Haitian staple diet; since they are eaten throughout the whole country, regardless the region, they can be considered to be a national food. Haiti is also very famous for the Barbancourt Rhum.

Quick Summary: Haiti is located in the island of Hispaniola which is shared between this country and the Dominican Republic. It is the second most populous country of Caribbean, and the most populous among CARICOM (Caribbean Community). Originally inhabited by an indigenous population called Taíno, the island was discovered during Christopher Columbus first voyage to Americas in 1492 and there, it was created the first European settlement, called "La Navidad". Haiti has a really strong culture, coming from the different influences from French, Spanish and African cultures which have mixed with the indigenous Taíno culture. The majority of the population is Christian, but there is a minority who practise Vodoo (a religion with African roots) still endures, especially in a syncretic form which ties it with Christianity.



FEATURE REGION: WEST AFRICA
COUNTRY NAME: LIBERIA
Location: West African Coast

Official Language: Liberian English
Corrency: Liberian Dolar(LRD)

Food: The prevalent ingredient in Liberian cuisine is rice, which combined with other products such as cassava, fish, bananas, coconut and sweet potatoes represents the country's staple food. Liberian cuisine has been largely influenced by the political and commercial closeness to United States. Liberia is indeed the only West African country where there is a baking tradition imported from North America.

Quick Summary: The word Liberia comes from Latin and means "Land of the Free". Liberia is considered to be the African oldest and first republic. Its independence was not gained through a revolt against another nation, but it was self-proclaimed. Liberia was one of the fund members of The League of Nations, United Nations and the Organization of African Unity.

The majority of Liberians is mainly Christian, but also other religions such as Islam are spread -Muslims represent nowadays the 12% of the population.

